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IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00569905

REFERENCE: The 2016 Committee Mid-Year Report (01/01/2015 – 06/30/2015); Received 08/20/2015

This responds to your letter dated August 20, 2015 based upon the Federal Election Commission's (the "Commission?") preliminary review of the Mid-Year Report (01/01/2015 – 06/30/2015) of The 2016 Committee (the "Committee?").

Item 1 – As discussed with our FEC analyst during a telephone conversation on September 2, 2015, all reimbursement amounts to individuals that exceed \$500 have been itemized. All other reimbursements do not qualify for itemization under 11 CFR §104.9.

Item 2 – The mid-year report has been amended and submitted on September 24, 2015 to provided additional clarification for expenses with a description of "Office Expenses?" and "Fulfillment Items?" to confirm with 11 CFR §104.(b)(3)(i).

Item 3 – Item 3 states, "Schedule E of your report indicates that your committee may have failed to file one or more of the required 48 hour report(s) for independent expenditures (see attached)?. The attachment lists three expenditures reported on Schedule E of the Committee's Mid-Year FEC Form 3X report (01/01/2015 – 06/30/2015).

The reason that the Committee did not file 48-hour reports regarding these expenditures was based on the guidance that the Committee received from the FEC's Information Division, along with the FEC Instructions and FEC regulations.

The FEC's Instructions for FEC Form 3X and Related Schedules states the following regarding 48-hour reports for independent expenditures:

"Any political committee that makes or contracts to make independent expenditures regarding a particular election (e.g., a particular party's Presidential nomination or a particular Senate general election) aggregating \$10,000 or more during the calendar year up to and including the 20th day before an election must ensure that the Commission receives a report of these expenditures no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard/Daylight Time of the second day following the date on which the independent expenditure meeting the \$10,000 threshold is publicly distributed or otherwise publicly disseminated.? [Instructions for FEC Form 3X and Related Schedules (Revised 4/2006), p. 19]

Likewise, the FEC's Regulations state the following regarding 48-hour Reports for independent expenditures:

"Political committees must report on Schedule E of FEC Form 3X all independent expenditures aggregating \$10,000 or more with respect to a given election any time during the calendar year up to and including the 20th day before an election.? [11 CFR §104.4(b)(2)]

The FEC's Information Division was initially contacted to confirm the FEC Instructions and FEC Regulations that 48-hour Reports regarding independent expenditures were not required to be filed in non-election years. The Information Specialist said that 48-hour Reports were not required to be filed in non-election years.

After the RFAI letter was received, on September 4, 2015, the FEC's Information Division was contacted again, and was asked whether 48-hour Reports regarding independent expenditures were required to be filed in non-election years. The Information Specialist (Miles), who was a different person from the one spoken with earlier, said that 48-hour Reports were not required to be filed in non-election years. The Information Specialist was then told that the Reports Analysis Division sent a request for additional information to the Committee which indicated that, based on the Schedule E of the Committee's Mid-Year Report (1/1/15 through 6/30/15), 48-hour Reports should have been filed with respect to three independent expenditures made in April, May, and June 2015. The Information Specialist said he would check into this matter and call back. Three hours later, the Information Specialist called back and said that he had conferred with several "senior staff members,?" and said that, based on 2 U.S.C.